



California Department of Parks and Recreation
 Four Rivers District
 31426 Gonzaga Road
 Gustine, CA 95322



San Luis Reservoir Pacheco Park

GENERAL PLANS



NEWSLETTER #2

SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA • PACHECO STATE PARK

Calendar of Events

GENERAL PLAN PROCESS AT A GLANCE

FALL 2002	WINTER 2003	SPRING/SUMMER 2003	FALL 2003	SPRING 2004
Information Gathering Fieldwork	Summarize Existing Conditions Discuss Opportunities & Constraints WORKSHOP #1 and EIR Scoping Meeting	Develop Plan Alternatives WORKSHOP#2 Draft General Plan Preparation	Public Review of Draft General Plan & EIR	Distribute Final Plans & EIR/EIS Agency Approvals

PARTICIPATION IS THE KEY TO A GREAT PLAN!

Contact Information

If you are not currently on our mailing list and would like to receive the planning update and notice about future workshops, or wish to send written comments, please contact us at:

California Department of Parks and Recreation
 Four Rivers District
 31426 Gonzaga Road
 Gustine, CA 95322
 209.826.1197
 (for questions or comments about the General Plan Process)

For general information about park use
 (e.g. hours, activities), please call:
 1-800-346-2711

Visit Our Website
www.parks.ca.gov/generalplans



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PARTNERS IN PLANNING

The first public planning workshop for the San Luis Reservoir General Plan/Resource Management Plan and Pacheco State Park General Plan was a success! Thanks to all who attended and shared their ideas about the parks' futures and also to those of you who filled out the survey. A summary of comments from the scoping meeting/workshop and the survey are enclosed. We're now in the process of incorporating your ideas into three alternatives for each Plan. These plans will define long-term visions for the parks, identify desired improvements and enhancements, and provide guidelines for protecting natural and cultural resources.



Public Planning Workshop #1

Public Planning Workshop #2:

Tuesday, May 27, 2003
 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 Four Rivers District Office
 31426 Gonzaga Road
 Gustine, CA 95322

HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?

Stay Informed: This newsletter is being published to keep you informed about the progress of these planning processes. It covers both the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan and the Pacheco State Park General Plan. Because the parks are adjacent to each other, the planning processes are being combined to make it easier for you to participate. You may also visit the State Parks website at www.parks.ca.gov to get updated information. To access the General Plan website from the main page, under Related Links click on "Planning", then under Related Links click on "General Plans", then under Related Links click on "Plans In Progress", then click on "San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area" or "Pacheco State Park."

Attend the Second Public Planning Workshop: We will host the second public workshop for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area and Pacheco State Park General Plans from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Four Rivers District Office (see location on map inside). We will present the three alternatives for each of the parks and ask for your input to help select the preferred alternatives for the General Plans. You will have the opportunity to comment and vote on the alternatives so that the preferred alternative can be selected with your input in mind. After the public meeting, the final preferred alternative will be chosen and used to craft the draft plans and analyze environmental impacts.

This meeting will be designed as an open house — so you can drop in any time during the session to learn about the alternatives and provide your comments. Presentations for the alternatives will be given at 90 minute intervals between 4:00 and 8:00 pm so you don't need to stay for the whole meeting to participate. Your attendance is important for reviewing the plans, so please join us!



Dinosaur Point Boat Ramp



Summer Hills at Pacheco

PACHECO STATE PARK

Pacheco State Park was created when Paula Fatjo bequeathed the property in her will to DPR for the "protection, maintenance, and fostering of natural flora and fauna thereon."

Based on issues identified through the scoping process and keeping the stated purpose of the park in mind, the alternatives for Pacheco should provide solutions for a variety of issues related to resource protection and recreation enhancements. It is useful to think of alternatives in terms of a range from minimum to maximum — or as passive uses, such as nature study, and active uses, such as overnight camping. The alternatives will include options such as:

- providing access to the adjacent San Luis State Recreation Area
- improving access and safety off State Route 152
- expanding day use areas and overnight camping
- exploring concession services for equestrian use and mountain biking rentals
- expanding trail use to more areas of the park
- expanding self-guided interpretive programs and provide an all-weather shelter for group gatherings
- continuing cultural and historic resource inventories and monitoring and set up a collections facility
- protecting native plant species utilizing best management practices
- continuing existing feral pig management and increase as resources allow
- evaluating maintenance of stock ponds and adjacent dams

MANAGEMENT ZONES AND ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

The planning process for San Luis and Pacheco will serve to guide the future of these parks for the next 30 years. To determine where future facilities and resource protection should occur, the designation of management zones is a planning tool that will be employed in this process. Management zones will help in describing the purpose of various areas within the parks, as well as depict their intended uses.

Management zones are set up based on what activities or resources exist in a given area now, as well as future goals for the area based on opportunities and constraints and issues identified by the stakeholders, as outlined in the enclosed summary. For San Luis, designations for both the land area and the surface water areas are proposed, since distinct activities occur in each.

To assist in developing alternatives, a summary of opportunities and constraints has been developed based on input received during the early scoping phase of this planning process and can be

LAND-BASED MANAGEMENT ZONES

1. Administration/Operations Zone (AO)
Proposed Uses

 - Storage
 - Administrative uses
 - Office space
 - Maintenance
 - Staff living quarters
 - Historic buildings
 - Interpretive facilities
2. Frontcountry Zone (FC)
Proposed Uses

 - Visitor orientation
 - Visitor center
 - Camping
 - Day use activities
 - Parking
 - Rest rooms
3. Backcountry (BC)
Proposed Uses

 - Trail use
 - Limited mechanized vehicles
 - Passive recreation
 - Grazing
 - Limited visitor access
 - Limited recreation
 - Nature study
 - Research
4. Leased Zone (LZ)
(Pacheco State Park only)
Proposed Uses and Actions

 - Vegetation and wildlife management
 - Limited public access
 - Wind turbines
 - Interpretive trails
 - Link to SRA lands

WATER-BASED MANAGEMENT ZONES

For the water-based designations at San Luis, an inventory system known as Water Resources Opportunities Spectrum (WROS) was employed and yielded the following results for each of the unit's reservoirs:

- O'Neill Forebay – Suburban Recreation Zone (S)**
- Highest concentration of water uses including personal watercraft, windsurfing.
- San Luis Reservoir – Rural Developed Recreation Zone (RD)**
- Maintain current water uses.
- Los Banos Reservoir – Rural Natural Recreation Zone (RN)**
- Least concentration of water uses excluding personal watercraft, windsurfing and water skiing and allowing non-motorized boating.

WROS is a planning tool to inventory, plan and manage water recreation resources for the future. We will be conducting additional WROS inventories and if you would like to participate, please contact us and we will let you know how you can help!

categorized in the following topics: Local and Regional Planning; Infrastructure and Operations; Water Operations; Visitor Experience and Education; and Resource Management.

SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA

The San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area was created when the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation developed the property for water storage and distribution. This is the primary purpose of the reservoirs and associated operational facilities located on over 25,000 acres of land and water that make up the project area. As part of that work, the Bureau set up a management agreement with the State to use portions of the area for recreation. California Department of Parks and Recreation's purpose statement for the area includes:

"the full utilization of the aquatic and other recreational opportunities in and about San Luis Reservoir and its Forebay; together with consideration for all scientific, scenic, and historical resources of the area."

Land and water areas are also managed by the California Department of Water Resources and California Department of Fish and Game. The map to the left illustrates the ownership, management and existing recreational uses of the two parks. The planning process for San Luis must consider the management responsibilities of each of the four agencies.

The alternatives for the State Recreation Area should provide solutions for a variety of issues for recreation and resource management while recognizing the unit's primary role for water supply and distribution. It is useful to think of alternatives in terms of a range from minimum to maximum improvements or management activities or from passive to more active recreation solutions. The alternatives will include options such as:

- providing linking trails between adjacent public lands
- improving access and safety between use areas
- expanding and improving visitor facilities and recreational opportunities
- providing concession services in limited areas
- maintaining and improving interpretive programs and facilities
- continuing cultural and historic resource inventories and monitoring and setting up a collections facility
- maintaining and providing wildlife corridors and habitat particularly for the San Joaquin kit fox
- protecting native plant species utilizing best management practices

